REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claims 3, 5 and 6 in order to avoid the multiple dependent claim surcharge. This Preliminary Amendment also amends claim 7.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 9, 2006

James E. Ledbetter

Registration No. 28,732

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. <u>L8638.06108</u>

STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.

Suite 850

1615 L Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone: (202) 785-0100

Facsimile: (202) 408-5200